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Daily Report

**MIDDLE EAST &
NORTH AFRICA**

REPORTAGE ON EVENTS IN IRAN



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East & North Africa

Vol V No 045 Supp 056

5 March 1980

Report on Events in Iran

Reportage on Events Concerning Hostage-Commission Meeting	1
Foreign Ministry Spokesman's Announcement	1
Revolution Council's Approval	1
Beheshti Comments	1
BBC on Prospective Meeting	2
UN Commission's Activities	2
Students Relay Decision	2
Student's AFP Interview	3
BBC on Situation	3
Students' KEYHAN Interview [28 Feb]	4
Bani-Sadr Comments on Hostages, Afghanistan	8
Qotbzadeh: Commission Meeting With Hostages 'A Certainty' [Paris 3 Mar]	8
Qotbzadeh MESIMVRINI Interview [Athens 4 Mar]	9
Khomeyni's Son Denies Any Affiliation With Students	12
Bazaar Merchants To March in Support of President, Students	13
Bani-Sadr Addresses Meeting in Memory of Mossadeq	13
Former SAVAK Director Tried, Executed	15
Two More Executions	15
3 March Border Clashes With Iraq Reported	15
NIOC Radio Accuses Iraq, U.S. of Assassination Plots	15
PLO Representative Discusses Ties With Iran, USSR	16
[AZADEGAN 27 Feb]	
Bani-Sadr Expresses Support for Palestinians	18
Interview With PLO Paper [VOP]	19
Commerce Minister Receives Hungarian Ambassador	20
Discussion of Trade	20
Bulgarian Deputy Minister Holds Talks on Trade	20
NVOI Decries Leniency Toward Counterrevolutionaries	21
NVOI Rejects Linking Hostages' Release, Commission Inquiry	21

REPORTAGE ON EVENTS CONCERNING HOSTAGE-COMMISSION MEETING

Foreign Ministry Spokesman's Announcement

LD051114 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1051 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[Text] According to the PARS NEWS AGENCY, the Foreign Ministry spokesman of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced this morning that Iran has not given any written guarantee that the members of the commission of inquiry investigating the crimes of Mohammad Reza Pahlavi and the United States in Iran can meet the hostages in the den of espionage.

The spokesman, while denying the AP report which had quoted the spokesman for UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim that Iran had given a written guarantee for the meeting of the commission of inquiry with the hostages, announced that this report is completely without foundation and untrue.

AP in its report had mentioned that the spokesman for Waldheim did not reveal the name of the person who had written the guarantee.

Revolution Council's Approval

LD042110 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2045 GMT 4 Mar 80 ID

[Text] According to the report of PARS NEWS AGENCY, the Revolution Council had a session tonight with the participation of President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr. At the end of this meeting, Sadeq Qotbzadeh, the minister of foreign affairs, in an interview with the reporters announced that with the approval of the Revolution Council the members of the commission of inquiry into the crimes of the former shah and the United States in Iran will meet with the hostages. Qotbzadeh did not put any information at the disposal of the reporters concerning the time and date of this meeting. He added that Imam Khomeyni has announced his approval concerning the meeting of the members of the commission of inquiry with the hostages.

Beheshti Comments

NC051042 Paris AFP in English 1033 GMT 5 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Tehran, March 5 (AFP)--The Revolutionary Council is still discussing where, when and in what capacity the United Nations committee investigating the former shah's regime should meet the hostages in the American Embassy, Revolutionary Council Secretary Ayatollah Mohammad Beheshti said today.

Ayatollah Beheshti said Iran's "revolutionary guide" Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni had not been consulted yesterday, but that "once he gave the order", arranging the meeting would be far simpler.

Asked whether the debate was expected to last several days, Ayatollah Beheshti said several days was "a long time", explaining that the talks centred on whether the hostages, held by Moslem extremists since November 4, should be seen as "witnesses" to the shah's alleged crimes or in some other capacity.

Saying "conflict" was too strong a word, the secretary admitted however there was "bound to be disagreement in any council."

BBC on Prospective Meeting

TA050631 London BBC World Service in English 0600 GMT 5 Mar 80 TA

[From "Correspondents' Reports"]

[Text] The latest development over the American hostages in Tehran: From some time their student captors alone appeared to be deciding the course of events. Now, Iran's Revolutionary Council, with the approval of Ayatollah Khomeyni, has agreed that the hostages would be visited by the UN commission which is investigating the government's allegation against the shah. From Tehran, Alex Brody.

[Begin Brody recording] There is no question the students will obey any instructions from Ayatollah Khomeyni and the student spokesman was reported to have said as much, so there will no doubt be contacts between the students and the ayatollah on Wednesday morning, and if satisfied that the visit has his blessing, the students will doubtless allow the commission in. The whole affair has been an embarrassment for the Iranian Government. It found itself in danger of being unable to exercise its authority in face of the students' independence and their stubbornness, that they are a law unto themselves and unimpressed, not only by the United Nations, but by their own government.

The students' earlier suggestion, made in a meeting with the president, was that the commission should see some of the hostages, give its report to the United Nations, and then be allowed to return to see all the hostages if the report was sympathetic to Iran. In rejecting this, the government apparently revealed something about the terms of the commissions's work by saying a visit to the hostages was part of its mandate.

Meanwhile, the commission has been patiently waiting, as usual. They have a meeting scheduled with the foreign minister on Wednesday, and it looks very much as if this will be the last chance for the success of its mission. It is felt that its departure from Iran cannot be delayed much longer. [end recording]

UN Commission's Activities

LD042200 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[Text] According to a PARS NEWS AGENCY report, the spokesman of the commission of inquiry into the crimes of Mohammad Reza Pahlavi and America in Iran announced: Two members of the commission had a meeting with the foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The result of this discussion, which lasted for half of an hour, was examined and studied in a separate meeting with the other members of the commission.

The spokesman added: It is planned that tomorrow morning all the members of the commission meet and confer with the minister of foreign affairs. He added: Two persons representing the governor of the Central Bank of Iran today met with the members of commission and gave the documents about the cheatings and financial irregularities of the regime of the deposed shah to the commission.

Students Relay Decision

LD041434 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[Text] The public relations office of the Muslim student followers of the imam's policy has reported that following the meeting on Monday 3 March in which two of the Muslim students, the president and four members of the Revolution Council took part, the Muslim students announced today at 1020 their final decision to the Foreign Ministry on the meeting between members of the investigating commission and the hostages as follows:

In accordance with the guidelines and decree issued by Imam Khomeyni in his recent message on the extradition of Mohammad Reza Pahlavi to the nation of Iran and the hostages, the duties of this commission are defined as investigating the crimes of the deposed shah and world-devouring America, and in it the issue of the hostages was transferred to the representatives of the nation who will meet in the Islamic Assembly council.

Considering the report of the last meeting at which our reasons were submitted, a meeting between the investigating commission with all the hostages in the present circumstances would be in contradiction with the uncompromising and decisive policy of the imam which is the policy of our Islamic revolution. As the imam emphasized in his message, every assistance should be given to the commission in submitting all evidence of the crimes of Mohammad Reza Pahlavi and the United States. Thus, evidence proving the spying activities of some of the hostages will be given to the commission as proof of the crimes of America so that the commission may interrogate these persons as living evidence of the crimes committed by America in Iran.

If this commission is successful in presenting the will of the brave, oppressed and bloodsoaked nation of Iran to the world public, discusses it in the United Nations and convinces it then their meeting with all the hostages in order to inquire into their health and conditions will be possible at the invitation of the Government of Iran. Thus the initiative will be Iran's and the hands of criminal America will be prevented from indulging in any possible exploitation.

Student's AFP Interview

NC041404 Paris AFP in English 1353 GMT 4 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Tehran, March 4 (AFP)--The five man United Nations investigating commission will be allowed to visit the American Embassy hostages as witnesses into "the shah's crimes," a spokesman for the Americans' captors said today.

"We agree to the commission coming to the embassy in the framework of the investigation of the shah's crimes, and it (the commission) could meet some of the hostages as witnesses," a spokesman told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESS.

The proposition has been put to President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr and the Revolutionary Council, the source said. The Iranian authorities and the commission are now considering the proposal.

The spokesman repeated a statement made to the PARS NEWS AGENCY that the commission and other dignitaries should be invited to see the hostages' living conditions and check that they are in good health.

The students, who have now held the 50 Americans for four months, said they would allow the commission to talk to the hostages as witnesses and "living documents" of American faults, thereby maintaining the line that the commission's task is to examine the crimes of the shah and the United States.

BBC on Situation

TA041559 London BBC World Service in English 1500 GMT 4 Mar 80 TA

[From "Radio Newsreel"]

[Text] The Iranian students occupying the American Embassy in Tehran have replied to the government's decision to allow the UN commission in the country to visit the hostages.

5

The students have put forward their own conditions for such a visit, and our correspondent in Tehran, Alex Brody, says negotiations are continuing to try to avoid what is coming to look like open defiance of the government by the students.

[Begin Brody recording] The ruling Revolutionary Council has decided to let the UN commission visit all of the hostages; but the students have so far not complied. Instead, according to a student spokesman, they put up their own scheme. This was that the commission should see some of the hostages as witnesses, then leave the country and make its report on Iran's grievances to the United Nations. If the report was favorable, then the commission could return and the students would let them see all the hostages. There is not much compromise in their scheme and the government is said to have rejected it. Acceptance would, of course, put the government in the position of admitting that it does not have authority over the students, and that would be a grave loss of face.

As the deadlock continues, pressure will now be for Khomeyni to intervene, for they are certain to obey whatever he says. That, however, could just backfire on the students, if they are seen to be putting the ayatollah, who has just left hospital after 5 weeks' treatment, under unnecessary pressure. And it could be said that he had already spoken and that sometime ago he told the people to obey decisions of the Revolutionary Council. On the other side, it could be said that the students were merely carrying to its logical conclusion the repeated message of Iran's leader that the commission and the hostages were separate issues. [end recording]

Students' KEYHAN Interview

LD041623 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 28 Feb 80 p 14 LD

[Exclusive interview with students occupying U.S. Tehran embassy by KEYHAN correspondents Manuchehr Hedayatpur and Isma'il Azimpur: "Muslim Students Following the Imam's Policy: Those Who Suspect That They Are To Be Exposed Are Spreading Rumors"]

[Excerpts] In an exclusive interview with KEYHAN, the Muslim students following the imam's policy gave their views on various state issues.

Two KEYHAN correspondents, Manuchehr Hedayatpur and Isma'il Azimpur, sat opposite two students and asked questions freely without restraint.

The text of the interview is as follows:

[Question] Why do you not disclose the existence of the documents over a fixed period of time? Hesitation in the timing of the disclosures has given rise to reservations.

[Answer] When the documents fell into our hands and we began to translate them we decided on a particular method by which we would disclose their contents, but owing to particular factors and conditions some delays are occurring. We shall in due course explain what these factors are, and they will show the extent of the deep consideration which we are giving to the documents, but from the outset it has been our intention to continue the exposures, following the method decided on, and God willing we shall in future continue to do this. There has been no hesitation on our part; it is that there are certain factors and problems raised by the community and particular groups which require a certain amount of consideration and reflection.

[Question] Are you aware of what these factors are?

[Answer] Naturally, when a series of documents pertaining to particular groups or individuals is published, it is not merely a question of [the actions of] these groups or individuals, but concerns a series of events, which are sharply affected by what is disclosed, and this naturally compels them to react against us. They try in various ways to deflect the issue of occupation of the den of espionage--which represents the zenith of the anti-imperialist struggle--and to turn it into an issue of conflict between those individuals [the students] at the den of espionage, and those who are the subject of the disclosures. The groups who have been exposed, or who suspect that they are to be exposed, begin to spread rumors, and it is this that creates a series of problems in the community; it may create unrest and bring about agitation. There are issues which must be taken into account, and when the community becomes overexcited, and does not have enough patience to tolerate the disclosures, this naturally has an effect upon the manner in which we make the disclosures.

[Question] In defending himself on radio and television, Dr Minachi claimed that your documents are forgeries. He also said that you are led by one who does not believe in the constitution and that "under the former regime, when we were engaged in the struggle, he [Mosavi Kho'ini] did not dare to utter a word, he did not suffer a single blow, he did not spend a day in prison; but today he is more revolutionary than anyone else." What is your view of this?

[Answer] What that gentleman [Minachi] said is quite wrong. The only person we contacted before the occupation of the den of espionage and whom we consulted as to whether this occupation was in line with the imam's policy or not was Mosavi Kho'ini. It is people like Mosavi Kho'ini and the existing revolution forces whom the people recognize.

We consulted him, and he confirmed that if we carried out this action it would be in line with the imam's policy and would not harm the revolution.

[Question] Are you in contact with or interfering with the committee of inquiry and what is your position vis-a-vis the committee?

[Answer] In a message which the imam sent to the Revolution Council he asked members to appoint two delegations to investigate the crimes of the shah and America in Iran and to tell the world about them. On the face of it, one of the committees which the Revolution Council formed in connection with this recent message from the imam and at the request of the president of the republic is the selfsame committee of inquiry which has arrived in Iran, which intends to investigate the crimes of the shah and America and tell the world about them.

In accordance with what the imam said, and in our own view, the duty of the committee is: 1) to see first hand those crippled in the revolution; 2) to contact the families of the martyrs and see what they suffer; 3) to see the ruin the shah, America's agent, caused in Iran, familiarize itself with this, and tell the nations of the world about it. Naturally if the committee sees at close range the things mentioned by the imam, they will reach the conclusion desired by the Iranian nation, namely that it was the shah who introduced these inhuman practices and caused the massacres and the ruins and that he must be returned to Iran and put on trial.

As for contact between ourselves and this committee, we believe that it should follow the directions indicated by the imam, approach the actual circumstances as closely and fulfill the demands of the Iranian nation.

We may make available to the committee documents which have fallen into our hands emanating from the American spies operating against the Islamic Revolution of Iran so that it can follow up America's crimes better and acquaint humanity with them; and let humanity be the judge.

[Question] Do you operate on a council [showra] system?

[Answer] Our forces have been divided up on the basis of the different activities undertaken, and each organ and unit has a council. In general, work is carried out according to a council system.

[Question] Where do funds for yourselves and for the hostages come from? If from a private source, should the wages of Iranian employees at the embassy not be taken from this source?

[Answer] As far as the hostages are concerned, I must say that the den of espionage contains enough food, drugs and facilities for several years, and if this den of espionage were to be under siege, it could live for many years without contacting the outside world. However, funds for the students are provided by the people, or popular forces such as the Guards Corps. As for the Iranian staff's wages, in general embassies have a system recognized by international law whereby the government maintaining an embassy regards embassy premises as part of its territory, and that government must meet the cost of expenses incurred, employees recruited, and building costs; and in truth, staff expenses here must be paid for by the American Government. Having regard to the fact that the American charge d'affaires is being held as a hostage of the people by the Foreign Ministry, he must ask the American Government to send funds and pay the Iranian staff. If this is not done we must be instructed to dispose of, by sale or other method, American property here, including property in American houses and whatever personal possessions they may own, to pay the staff.

[Question] Have you come under pressure from any political group?

[Answer] In principle no populist and original movement can come under pressure from a particular group, but it is clear that these groups react to populist and original movements. They adopt an attitude toward these movements. We have seen up to now that those who claim to be acting in the public interest do not come and show some support for the occupation of the den of espionage, but merely resort to uttering warnings. If they are [indeed] Soviet supporters, they should support the occupation of the den of espionage--so there must be some other reason why they do not support us.

This stance is in fact taken by groups and forces which feel that the occupation of the den of espionage, and in particular the disclosure of documents may lead to their downfall and expose them as they really are, or result in the people repudiating them. So they attempt to adopt these stances, confronting us with rumors and harming our movement through rumor-mongering.

But as I have said, no populist and original movements can be perverted by any political group, and although we are currently witnessing a series of reservations circulating among public opinion against us in connection with the occupation of the den of espionage, when we see the leader of the revolution again in the forefront of the movement and [when we have] Imam Khomeyni's support for a person who truly represents [our] school of thought and this revolution, embodies the people's desire and really does represent their will [presumably a reference to Mosavi Kho'ini], many of these reservations will fade from people's minds and all the difficulties which all these groups are trying to make for us here and the pressures they are seeking to bring to bear on us will come to an end.

[Question] Rumors are circulating concerning those exposed in the documents to the effect that more important documents are in existence, but they have not been disclosed since they contain more important names.

[Answer] As the question indicates, this is mere rumor, and is inaccurate. If there were other documents in existence we would without doubt make them public.

[Question] You say that you do not meddle in executive matters, but it is clear that outside the den of espionage there are certain executive authorities who at the slightest sign from you go into action. An example of this is the arrest of Minachi. How do you explain your "lack of interference"?

The same brother student replied: "First, we do not believe that we should interfere in the business of the executive, since we do not possess the ability to do this. There are so many revolutionary forces in existence, so many revolutionary individuals, so many state officials in charge who are prepared to support our revolutionary move; many of these populist forces exist, for example the Guards Corps, the Revolution Courts, the holy war for reconstruction, the Islamic societies and so forth. They are ready to sacrifice themselves to prevent the revolution from following a wayward path, and they come forward every time they feel that there is division and strife.

The revolutionary forces are not limited [merely] to a number of students who have come and occupied these premises.

[Question] On the subject of the charge d'affaires and several other persons at the Foreign Ministry, would you please clarify the information communicated to the public explaining what actually happened, how it was that these people were taken there, how they are being guarded, how long they will remain there, and why up to now they have not been delivered to you alongside the other hostages.

[Answer] As regards the charge d'affaires and the two persons with him, Tomseth and Howland--notable American spies in Iran--being held at the Foreign Ministry, on the day we came here and occupied these premises they were at the Foreign Ministry, and they were not transferred here. You should really ask the Foreign Ministry this question; and since measures we took to have them transferred here were interpreted as amounting to interference in the affairs of the executive, we did not pursue the matter. The foreign minister must answer this, and similar questions.

As for our giving information about them: What is certain is that the people are not concerned with just one person, with just one more spy. It is not the extent of Laingen's crimes that is the point being stressed.

The be-all and end-all of our confrontation, and that of our people, in the matter of the occupation of the den of espionage of our struggle with America is not to study the true nature of these spies, or to discover what effect disclosure of the documents will have; the more important issue is the movement as a whole, and the total outlook of this revolution, which regards America as the principal enemy.

BANI-SADR COMMENTS ON HOSTAGES, AFGHANISTAN

JN041533 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 4 Mar 80 JN

[Text] President of the republic Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr has categorically denied what has been reported by AP, citing the German magazine STERN, regarding the U.S. hostages detained in Tehran.

The magazine STERN attributed a statement to Dr Bani-Sadr that the Muslim students occupying the U.S. Embassy cannot decide the destiny of the hostages or resist the people in case a decision is made to release the hostages.

The president of the republic said that what has been announced by Imam Khomeyni that the Islamic Shura council will decide the future of the hostages largely explained this issue.

Referring to the proposal made by Afghan President Babrak Karmal regarding the establishment of fraternal cooperation between Iran and Afghanistan, President Bani-Sadr said: We cannot establish such cooperation as long as Karmal is calling on the Russians to exercise pressure on the Afghan people.

Regarding the intervention of U.S. President Carter in the Persian Gulf and a stand against the foreign intervention in the region, Dr Bani-Sadr said: The best stand that Carter should adopt is not to interfere in the Persian Gulf region or any other region. He added: Our people can defend themselves, and I hope that the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan has proved to both the United States and the Soviet Union that the time for dispatching forces to settle problems has died.

QOTBZADEH: COMMISSION'S MEETING WITH HOSTAGES 'A CERTAINTY'

LD050803 Paris LE FIGARO in French 3 Mar 80 p 4 LD

[Serge Chauvel-Leroux dispatch: "Khomeyni Agrees to Hostages Meeting With UN Commission"]

[Excerpt] Tehran--Of course, the hostages are not about to be released yet, though in Mr Qotbzadeh's view the UN commission's visit and the attention it has given over the past week to the imperial regime's extortions meet the heartfelt demand of many Iranians and have considerably altered domestic opinion, thus raising barriers.

Having finalized the last details of the imminent meeting one by one with the commission and the Revolution Council and before presenting them to the imam, Sadeq Qotbzadeh received us. He has a sportsman's physique and wore a ski sweater even in the sumptuous offices inherited from the imperial administration; his hoarse voice was that of a heavy smoker. As we entered a notice requested that we leave our weapons at the door.

"The meeting with the hostages is a certainty," he said. "All that remains to be done is for the commission to complete its inquiry. The visit as a whole is a separate matter. When I was in Paris a fortnight ago I explained that this commission's work had nothing to do with the issue of the hostages' release. It is the world press which has raised false hopes."

Despite the twofold mandate issued by the United Nations--to investigate the imperial regime and to settle the Iranian-U.S. dispute, that is free the hostages--the minister said that he never discussed with Kurt Waldheim linking the release to the commission's arrival: "If there was any ambiguity and misunderstanding, it was not on our party," he said. "I merely hoped that this commission's work would make it possible to create a more realistic atmosphere in which to really resolve the hostages issue." "Our people," Sadeq Qotbzadeh continued, "really are demanding international attention to the former regime's crimes and to its dependence on the United States. They know that as the commission verifies these atrocities it will bring them to the attention of the world."

"Win this crisis," he added, "the foreign minister has had to give guarantees dangerous to himself, in an atmosphere of tension and misunderstanding. Nor has logic prevailed at all on the American side. The creation of a UN commission which nobody believed in could not achieve any result. First, the international organization's credibility, which was lost in Iran, should have been restored so that our people would accept certain conditions for resolving the problem."

He does not regard the visit as futile. The commission was welcome and respected: This is the first positive thing that has happened since the start of the crisis....

As for the delay in releasing the hostages, following on from Ayatollah Khomeyni's statement a week ago as the five jurists set off confidently from Geneva, Mr Qotbzadeh was not afraid of being cynical: "No timetables were decided," he said. "Things were totally ambiguous: No traps were set. I have done my utmost to insure that when the commission's report is published the hostages can be released."

Despite the students' announcements, the foreign minister believes that, according to the letter of the imam's declaration entrusting a decision on the liberation to the future Parliament, the hostages' fate is not linked to the shah's extradition and that the hypothesis of proceedings against some of them conflicts with the "envisaged directions" since, following the gradual decrescendo since November, the work of the commission currently in Tehran has replaced the previously suggested idea of a tribunal.

At the same time, according to Qotbzadeh, the demand for the shah's extradition reflects a serious political requirement, and he personally is in favor of guaranteeing to the Panamanian state that the former sovereign will not be executed: "Never mind," he said with a sly look: "We will get him...."

Qotbzadeh MESIMVRINI Interview

ATO41619 Athens MESIMVRINI in Greek 4 Mar 80 p 5 AT

[Exclusive interview granted by Iranian Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh to MESIMVRINI'S Tehran correspondent, Ioannidis, presumably on 3 March]

[Excerpts] Iran Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh is optimistic on the solution of the hostage issue. He believes the Parliament to be elected early in April will decide to put an end to the crisis. The students themselves, however, continue to appear intransigent.

I met Foreign Minister Qotbzadeh yesterday afternoon and our discussion covered many subjects ranging from the hostages to relation between the Islamic revolution and Greece.

Question: During your recent visit to Greece you described the Greeks as "brothers." One of the problems, however, which your revolution is facing overseas is that people of good will, like the Greeks you have met, do not understand the nature of the Iranian Islamic Revolution. Could this, perhaps, be because they consider that religion and the state must be two separate things?

Answer: The question of religion in the world is related to the role played by religions. In the past and for centuries nations were oppressed in the name of religion. The faith of the people was utilized for the suppression of the people.

Question: Do you refer to all religions?

Answer: Yes, I refer to all religions without exceptions.

Question: What is the meaning to you, in your capacity as foreign minister, of the term: "Neither with the East nor with the West?" You have problems with the East and even more serious problems with the West. You have problems with your neighboring countries. You have problems with the Arabs and with other Islamic countries. Could it be that this policy which you describe as a "negative balance," leads Iran toward isolation?

Answer: No, not of necessity. Many countries are waiting to see whether our revolution will succeed or not and whether this policy of ours is not defeated, to say the least. If it is not defeated then many countries will follow us.

Question: Which countries?

Answer: Countries like Greece.

Question: Like Greece?

Answer: Why not?

Question: But what is the relation between the Islamic revolution and Greek reality?

Answer: No. I do not mean this. I refer to foreign policy, to the negative balance, to "neither with the East nor with the West." Probably the Greeks, with the convictions that they have or would like to have and by using their judgment, could reach a policy which is based upon this "neither with the East or with the West." This is a rejection of the sovereignty of both superpowers. Consequently this aspect of the Islamic revolution could become a model for many countries. The ideological substructure, naturally, is not of necessity Islamic. We do not say that non-Islamic countries must espouse the Islamic ideology in order to make a revolution. Most certainly we do not say this. What we do say is that in order to lead the individual person to happiness they must have a spiritual substructure which is related to material prosperity. The revolution is made and if it is to survive the polity of "neither with the East or with the West" is followed.

Question: I now come to the main and burning question of relations with the United States. I have personally spoken to the students who hold the hostages and they told me that the hostages will not be freed until the shah is extradited and that this is the people's will and the line laid down by the Imam Khomeyni. I believe this could lead to a state of "permanent hostages." Do you share this view of mine about "permanent hostages"?

Answer: No, not permanent.

Question: With "permanent," I mean long term.

Answer: No, it will not be of a "long duration." As soon as the members of Parliament meet they will decide.

Question: And if the people's will...

Answer: The people's will will be expressed through the Parliament and not through one person or through one group. This is also what the imam recently stated. It is the representatives of the Iranian people who will decide on the question of the hostages.

Question: What if the Parliament decides to try some of the hostages?

Answer: I do not believe so. Let us not make suppositions.

Question: I am simply repeating what I heard at the embassy about the possibility of a trial.

Answer: No, there will be no trial.

Question: You most certainly must read what foreign newspapers write about you. They consider President Bani-Sadr as a moderate and you as hard. Do you consider yourself hard?

Answer: It depends upon what all these words mean. I most certainly do not wish to make declarations or comments which I will be unable to implement. I am trying to explain the true situation and not to confuse my ideals with the reality which exists around me. We must look upon what we can and what we cannot do realistically. The term "hard" is an adjective given to me by the Western press and it is of no interest to me. In reference to the crisis of the hostages, I tried to solve it right from the beginning. I believe that its solution will be beneficial to world peace and to the countries of the Third World. At the same time it would also elevate the prestige of the United Nations and furthermore that it would be to the interest of the countries which got involved in this crisis.

Question: You are, of course, referring to the solution of the crisis?

Answer: Yes, to the solution of this problem. I have tried to have it solved right from the start. I tried to take steps of strategy instead of talking without my words having any relation to the realities which I have mentioned. In other words I have tried to take the steps that can be taken.

Question: Do these realities provide any hopes for a speedy solution to the question of hostages?

Answer: It depends on what we mean by speedy...

Question: I do not mean tomorrow.

Answer: You must bear in mind that the efforts for the establishment of the UN commission lasted for 3 months. It was the United States which attempted to prevent its formation. In the end it realized that formation of the commission for the purpose of conducting an investigation was imperative. This is the first positive step.

Question: Do you believe in the prospects created because of the commission?

Answer: Most certainly this is the only way to solve this problem.

Question: What is your position toward the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan?

Answer: We have already declared our position. We totally oppose it.

Question: In a few words, how would you describe the Imam Khomeyni?

Answer: He is unique in Iranian history. He is a man with frightening spiritual power, faith and beliefs and he has a very deep love for this country, its people and God.

Question: Has he affected you spiritually?

Answer: Most certainly and this is the reason I love him from the depths of my heart.

Question: Who else apart from Imam Khomeyni affected your spiritual development?

Answer: Many thinkers but not any single one person.

Question: Were you affected by Aristotle or even more by Plato?

Answer: I have certainly studied them. They are correct but they have their problems.

Question: Who does not have them?

Answer: Most certainly we all have. You study the philosophers and you take what you can from them. This, however, does not mean that they also have a definitive influence.

Question: Is it practical to implement love in a foreign policy?

Answer: And why not? Ever since I arrived here I have avoided stating the smallest lie. I have always stated the truth and I have behaved honestly.

Question: Is this also the reason why you are optimistic on the question of the hostages?

Answer: Yes, most certainly.

Question: I recall what you said in Athens, "love is acquired with difficulty and it is difficult to lose it."

Answer: Yes, this is a Persian poem which states: The world was created by the heart through time. It can only leave our heart with time.

Question: Is this your message to the world?

Answer: Yes, and it also applies both to the problems and to the enmities we have today.

Leaving, Qotbzadeh greeted me warmly and asked me to express, through the newspaper, the deep love he has for the Greek people.

KHOMEYNI'S SON DENIES ANY AFFILIATION WITH STUDENTS

LDO42152 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni, in an interview with the PARS NEWS AGENCY tonight, expressed his views about the meeting of the members of the commission of inquiry into the crimes of the deposed shah and America in Iran with the hostages. Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni, in this interview, said: Although I have not listened to the arguments of either of them [not further identified] nevertheless, I believe it is good to have a meeting and it will do no harm.

I also believe that this has been in the program of the commission of inquiry. Of course, whether or not America will benefit from this meeting is a separate issue.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni, in another part of this interview concerning the Muslim student followers of the imam's policy, said: At the time when the former American Embassy was occupied by the students, I was asked to convey what they had to say to Imam Khomeyni. I went and listened to their remarks. At that time, I also said that I had no information about the occupation of the embassy nor was I a member of nor did I belong to the students. Basically, I had no [words indistinct] about the question of the embassy.

He was asked: To what extent do you have advance information about the position of the Muslim student followers of the imam's policy, and especially about their revelations? Hojjat ol-Eslam Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni replied: I am in no way informed of the activities of the students. They are, basically, independent and do not consult me about any issue. Like you, I read their revelations in the newspapers. Due to my close friendship with my dear brother Mr Mosavi Kho'ini and my acquaintance with the Muslim students, I occasionally go there. Once or twice I also met the hostages. However, this does not mean that I am informed of what goes on there or that I have a role in shaping it. This kind of thinking has even occurred to the members of the government, because I notice that they occasionally use me as a go-between.

The last question asked by the correspondent of the PARS NEWS AGENCY was: What is the view of the imam about holding the elections for the Majles in two stages? Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni said: The imam has kept quiet on this issue and even I have not yet been able to know of his view. He has delegated it to the Revolution Council and has not expressed any opinion concerning this matter yet. He has said: I will not express an opinion.

BAZAAR MERCHANTS TO MARCH IN SUPPORT OF PRESIDENT, STUDENTS

LD041828 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[Text] The bazaar merchants of Tehran will take part in a march tomorrow from the Imam Mosque to the den of American espionage to show their support for the president of our country regarding the disarmament of armed groups and to show their support for the revelations of the Muslim student followers of the imam's policy. The Tehran bazaar will be closed for this purpose tomorrow afternoon.

BANI-SADR ADDRESSES MEETING IN MEMORY OF MOSSADEQ

LD041823 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[Text] According to a report by our correspondent, in the ceremonies held in and around Azadi Square to commemorate the anniversary of Dr Mossadeq's death, Dr Abolhassan Bani-Sadr, the president of our country, in a speech lasting about 45 minutes evaluated in detail the policies of Dr Mossadeq on domestic and foreign issues. The president of our country, describing the role of Dr Mossadeq in the struggles of the Iranian nation after World War II, said: We were the first nation after World War II to stand up for the achievement of independence and freedom and in the postwar world we unfurled the banner of struggle for independence and freedom in Iran.

Referring to the economic embargo by the West during the time of Dr Mossadeq and the poverty which existed in the country, Dr Bani-Sadr said: Mossadeq once told a foreign correspondent that Western threats and the economic embargo would not defeat our people and that with the achievement of independence and freedom the period of poverty and degradation would also come to an end.

Dr Bani-Sadr said: The experience of that time proves that Dr Mossadeq was not wrong on this count.

Referring to the people who, at the time of Dr Mossadeq, by exploiting the poverty put pressure upon the people to turn them either left or right, and emphasizing Dr Mossadeq's aspiration for independence, Dr Bani-Sadr said: Neither of our powerful northern or southern neighbors wished for our independence. Our northern neighbor was not in favor of our independence because the establishment of a free and independent Muslim country created difficulties for that country, which wished to spread its domination over the world. That is why, from the beginning of the rule of Dr Mossadeq until 19 August 1953 the sharp edge of the dagger of the northern power was turned against the government of Mossadeq. The southern power, namely England and America, did not desire the victory of our movement either, because it endangered their illegitimate interests and their domination over oil resources. This is why they joined forces to overthrow the government of Mossadeq.

Dr Bani-Sadr said: The provocations carried out in those days against the government caused it to spend most of its time in neutralizing and repulsing the provocations. Consequently, it did not find an opportunity to attend to other problems and thus the ground was laid for the coup of 19 August 1953.

Contrasting European nationalism with Mossadeq's views on Iran, Mr Bani-Sadr said: To insure that the country remains immune from foreign domination it is necessary for it to depend upon its own unity and it is necessary that religion should be the basis of this historic unity so that it combats foreign domination whenever necessary and has no difficulty in achieving unity.

According to our correspondent Dr Bani-Sadr referred in passing to some of the main points of Dr Mossadeq's program and said: Even now it is very important to pay attention to this program. Describing Dr Mossadeq's policy concerning negative equilibrium, he said: In its foreign policy Mossadeq's government did not wish to replace the influence of one superpower with the influence of another superpower. From an economic viewpoint Mossadeq's government carried out a policy for the first time without relying upon oil income and foreign revenues.

In a critical evaluation of Mossadeq's era, Dr Bani-Sadr put greater emphasis on the necessity of administrative and social reforms and said: Mossadeq's governmental and social reforms started from the army, but before they could come to full fruition the coup took place. He said: Dr Mossadeq did all he could, but the administrative machinery of the country failed to give him assistance and the army commanders were not united with him. Consequently, the army constituted the weakness of the leadership in the national movement of Iran and the coup was carried out from this point of weakness.

Dr Bani-Sadr, who believes that we should learn from the problems of Iran during the era of Mossadeq, said: With the victory of the Iranian Revolution under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni the name of Dr Mossadeq was revived in the memory of the oppressed people of the world. So long as this nation lives the memory of Mossadeq will live too.

At the end of his speech Dr Bani-Sadr expressed the hope that by making use of the experiences of Dr Mossadeq's era we can create a country capable of reaching the level of advanced countries, which will not be dominated by any other country and which will become the standard bearer of freedom and independence.

The ceremonies held in an around Azadi Square in memory of Dr Mossadeq ended with loud cries of "greetings to Mossadeq, greetings to Bani-Sadr" at about 1740.

FORMER SAVAK OFFICIAL TRIED, EXECUTED

LD041949 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[Text] The Office of the Prosecutor of the Islamic Revolution of Iran announced that Mojtaba 'Amid--the military governor under Lt Gen Teymur Bakhtiyar after the coup of 19 August 1953, the director of internal security of the defunct SAVAK, the deputy director of the defunct SAVAK in Tehran, and the director of SAVAK in Qasr-e Shirin, Ilam and Mazandaran Province--was tried in section one of the Islamic Revolution Court of Tehran and found guilty of corruption on earth, and of waging war against God and God's prophet. Due to his guilt in torturing the leaders of the Feda'i-ye Islam strugglers and of striving to strengthen the Pahlavi regime he was sentenced to death and his execution was carried out at 1300 today in the courtyard of Evin Prison.

Two More Executions

LD041953 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[Text] A spokesman of the Office of the Prosecutor General of the Islamic Revolution has announced that the death sentence passed by section one of the Islamic Revolution Court of Tehran in the trial of former police officer Hoseyn Heydari, who was attached to the so-called Joint Anti-subversion Committee and found guilty of participation in numerous clashes with strugglers, which led to their death and torture, was carried out yesterday afternoon in the courtyard of Evin Prison.

Also according to a spokesman of the Office of the Prosecutor General of the Islamic Revolution, the verdict of execution passed on Hoseyn-Qoili Haqverdi, who was found guilty of the murder of three people, was carried out yesterday in the courtyard of Evin Prison.

3 MARCH BORDER CLASHES WITH IRAQ REPORTED

JNO41552 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 4 Mar 80 JN

[Text] The PARS NEWS AGENCY has learned that three Iranian border posts of (Jani Aleks), (Sheqa Hemam), and (Salyah) were subjected to a 3-hour armed attack from inside Iraqi territory at 2030 lastnight.

However, the Iranian border forces replied to this attack, during which both heavy and light arms were used.

Kermanshah gendarmerie commander Colonel (Akhiani) said that the Iranian border forces courageously and heroically repulsed these attacks.

No losses in lives were reported on the Iranian side.

NIOC RADIO ACCUSES IRAQ, U.S. OF ASSASSINATION PLOTS

GFO41845 Abadan National Iranian Oil Company Radio 0950 GMT 4 Mar 80 GF

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The leader of the nation and of the Islamic Revolution left the heart disease hospital in Tehran at about 2130 yesterday. Almighty God blessed him with good health.

When he boarded the aircraft from Baghdad to Paris--when the Ba'thist authorities who were colluding with the shah deported him--the struggling imam said: I shall continue to struggle against tyranny from one aircraft to another, and from one country to another, until the idol falls and the banner of Islam is raised, whatever the difficulties.

The current stage of the Islamic Republic is much more serious than the previous one. It is not easy for the enemies in the East and the West and their lackeys to see the banner of Islam flying high in this country, threatening all their interests in the area. This explains the joy felt by Zionist circles in the United States when they heard that the imam had entered the hospital. They saw in this an end to their pains caused by the emergence of this imam on the international scene.

The raising of the banner of Islam in Iran by the graduate of the Muhammadan 'Alawi school, the Imam Khomeyni, explains the conspiracies that are being secretly concocted to get rid of this man. The tyrannical authorities in Baghdad, which took over the duties of the Gulf's policeman following the shah's fall, suggested to an Iraqi Army officer that he assassinated the imam, offering him money and a higher post as an inducement. The officer, however, rejected the idea, and wrote a letter to the imam on this matter. The tyrannical authorities assassinated this officer because he refused to commit the crime and follow the criminals' lead.

The U.S. ambassador to Saudi Arabia said that the best way to halt the danger of the Islamic expansion is to get rid of Imam Khomeyni by assassinating him.

The current stage, the stage of construction, is much more serious than the liberation stage. It needs the imam's leadership more than ever. It needs the unity of the broad masses with this outstanding leadership more than in the past. The enemies of Islam will not remain idle and lay their arms, but will persist in their conspiracies and intrigues to sow division and dissension. The best response to these conspiracies is the nation's obedience to its wise and courageous leadership. The best response to the schemes of the rancorous is to continue firmly and with determination along the long and arduous road, the road of building ourselves and our homeland.

PLO REPRESENTATIVE DISCUSSES TIES WITH IRAN, USSR

LD030841 Tehran AZADEGAN in Persian 27 Feb 80 p 4 LD

[Unattributed report: "Hani al-Hassan: 'Equitable Relations With the Soviet Union Are Beneficial for Iran and Palestine'"]

[Text] In an interview with press correspondents [time and place not given] PLO Tehran representative Hani al-Hassan answered questions on Yasir 'Arafat's recent trip to Tehran and his talks with President Bani-Sadr.

He began: "There were two reasons for Yasir 'Arafat's recent trip to Tehran: First, to meet the imam and congratulate him on the first anniversary of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, and then to meet the president of Iran and hold talks with him.

"During the trip the PLO chief and the Iranian president exchanged views for a period of 9 hours, discussing their understanding of the political events in the world at large and in the nonaligned states, Iran-Arab relations and future relations between Iran and Palestine."

Iran Must Be the Leader of the Nonaligned States

Hani al-Hassan continued: "Real, fundamental political thought may restore the exuberance, the momentum and the activities of the nonaligned movements, and the PLO believes that Iran must take a lead in this because a significant number of Islamic countries are to be found in the nonaligned movement, and these countries are considered to be of great importance.

"There are also several independent, socialist countries in the movement, and consequently, with the importance which Iran enjoys by virtue of the support of the PLO and several other forces, it can give a new impetus to the movement."

"In the talks the Middle East issue--particularly Palestine--was discussed, and brother Bani-Sadr said that this is a problem Iran regards as its own. We welcomed this view warmly, since we believe that Iran has a historic role to play in the area and cannot just isolate itself from the region. Iran is a Middle East state and cannot repeat the mistake made by Ataturk, who tried to make Turkey a European state; and today we can see the situation in Turkey, which has lost its character.

"In the talks between Yasir 'Arafat and Mr Bani-Sadr there were detailed discussions on Afghanistan; obviously, the PLO will expose any forcible occupation, regardless of the country in which this occurs. However, having regard to the strong links it has with the Soviet Union and the strong fraternal and strategic ties with Iran, the PLO must play a role in solving the problem.

"On his return from Iran Yasir 'Arafat received three letters from the Soviet leaders and replied to them; as far as I know, these letters dealt mainly with the Afghanistan issue. Attention must be given to Afghanistan problems, and in order to arrive at a final solution attempts must be made to promote peace and stability in the area, with everyone putting effort into the confrontation with the principal enemy, which is Zionism and American imperialism."

"My Meeting With the Soviet Ambassador Took Place on Instructions From Beirut"

A correspondent asked: "You had a meeting with the Soviet ambassador last night; what was this about?"

Hani al-Hassan replied: "Just as our brothers in Beirut are in direct contact with Soviet representatives, we too in Tehran sometimes hold meetings with the Soviet ambassador, following instructions received from Beirut, and since the Soviet ambassador in Tehran is a most important diplomat and his views carry much weight in the Soviet Union, we consider it beneficial to exchange views with him on certain problems in an open and fraternal fashion, since what happens in Afghanistan has repercussions on Iran and the Palestine issue. I believe that these meetings are beneficial in that they clarify viewpoints and present a picture of the seriousness of the present situation between Iran and Afghanistan. In my opinion, Iran is right to take a serious view of Afghanistan issues since Afghanistan is situated on its borders.

"I am going to Beirut tomorrow to learn of the results of the two sides [as published] and I hope that on my return things will have turned out well, since if the relations subsisting between Iran and the Soviet Union are based on independence, rule [presumably national rule] goodneighborliness and parallel geopolitical conditions, this will benefit both the great nation of Iran and also the Palestinian nation.

"Neither the Palestinian nor the Soviet Embassy is a decisionmaking center, but is important that we should exchange views openly and leave our mark on our [own] decisionmaking centers.

"My efforts have been concentrated on acquainting the Soviet ambassador with the seriousness with which Iran regards the Afghanistan issue and warning that Palestine is paying particular attention to this. As you know, we maintain relations of a strategic nature with Iran, and whatever is important to Iran is of equal importance to us. Every battle Iran fights is our battle. Since the Soviet Union has strong strategic links with the PLO in terms of southern Lebanon, at the United Nations and in confronting Israel, any conflict between Iran and the Soviet Union is not in the interests of the Palestine issue."

There Must Be No Struggle Between Iran and the Soviet Union

"I explained this, as well as the need for the creation of mutual understanding between the Soviet Union and Iran as regards the region to the Soviet ambassador."

On relations between Iran and the Arab countries, Hani al-Hassan said: "Any Arab-Iranian struggle must be transformed into Arab-Iranian cooperation, and while there should be no struggle between Iran and the Soviet Union, ~~since~~ the everlasting and main enemy in the region is American imperialism and Zionism, I hope that we shall be able to create a single, revolutionary front in this region against American imperialism.

"In my view the recent talks between Iran and Palestine may perhaps constitute a nucleus for attracting other forces, in order that we may subsequently be able to reinforce the foundations of this revolutionary and anti-imperialist front."

A correspondent asked: "Was agreement reached in the talks between Yasir 'Arafat and the president of Iran on financial or military assistance from Iran for the Palestinian revolution?" In reply, Hani al-Hassan said: "Indeed brother Bani-Sadr asked whether the Palestinian revolution requires financial or military assistance, but brother Abu 'Ammar [merely] thanked him for the inquiry and his offer since political agreement on all details is of greater importance than financial or military aid. For example, the victory of the Islamic Revolution of Iran was a great help to the Palestinian nation, since Iran changed a camp dependent on American imperialism to one which is against American imperialism, a camp which supported Israel to one which is the enemy of Israel.

"We are now in agreement in all general matters, and we must reach agreement on detail; when both the Iranian and the Palestinian revolutions arrive at a single strategy in terms of detail, both sides will then try to support each other. At any rate, we have received no help whatsoever [as published] and I attach much importance to the recent talks with brother Bani-Sadr, since we have entered a stage when we are looking at detail, and we see that the Iranian aspect of the Afghanistan problem has attracted our attention because of the strategic relations we have with Iran."

BANI-SADR EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIANS

JN032014 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 3 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr has reiterated that the Iranian and Palestinian revolutions are fighting in one trench against the common Zionist enemy. He added that Iran's relations with the Palestinian revolution are good.

In a statement to the correspondent of the unified Palestinian information, President Bani-Sadr asserted Iran's support for the Palestinian revolution's struggle against the common enemy, Israel.

He threatened to cut off Iranian oil to any country supporting Israel, which constitutes a source of danger in the Middle East area.

Interview With PLO Paper

NC042209 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1704 GMT 4 Mar 80 NC

[Interview granted by Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, published in FILASTIN ATH-TAHAWRAH on 3 March]

[Text] The Iranian president said: Our relations with the Palestinian revolution are very good and its horizons are unlimited. As I have already said the Palestinian question is not unrelated to Iranian questions. The Palestine question is also an internal Iranian one. We support the Palestinian question in the same trench and against the same enemy. Thus our revolution must expand its struggle--especially against Zionism--because confronting Zionism in the Middle East is inevitable. As for support and aid, brother Abu 'Ammar and I discussed this subject. As far as financial aspects are concerned we are fully prepared to give this support. However, Abu 'Ammar told us that at this time there is no need for this. Abu 'Ammar said what is needed is moral support and political backing.

Bani-Sadr continued by saying: Certainly, moral and political support is much more important than material support. Our support in this area is unlimited and unrestricted. We fully support the Palestinian people and their right to their land and homeland in Palestine. At this stage we believe that all powers of the Islamic world must be polarized in one bloc--through maintaining the momentum of the Islamic revolution's spirit--so as to destroy the bases built by our enemies on our land. All the Islamic peoples must be on the first-defense frontlines to safeguard the Palestinian revolution and to participate in liberating Palestine. With regard to giving aid to our Lebanese brothers, we have taken this into consideration in our program.

Asked about the results of brother Abu 'Ammar's visit and talks in Iran, Bani-Sadr said: Our talks with brother and friend Abu 'Ammar covered several areas such as the current Lebanese situation, the necessity to defend the rights of the Shi'ites in Lebanon and the Middle East question. We held lengthy meetings and reviewed these subjects in all sincerity and frankness. We reached agreement on a number of practical steps that in the future will reveal their (usefulness).

Question: Ever since its victory, the Iranian Revolution announced that Iran became a confrontation against the Zionist imperialist enemy. Now a year after the victory of the revolution, what are your preparations on the road to liberate Palestine, the occupied Arab territory?

Answer: Israel enjoyed many privileges during the reign of the overthrown shah in cultural, economic and political areas. However, at present Israel has no privileges; this ended once and for all. Iranian oil was sold to Israel at very low prices and almost free. Also business transactions, imports and exports have been stopped. We have closed a big market for the Israeli products which were exported to us in huge quantities. This was the first part in our program. The second part is represented in the following: Iran was a base for Israel against our Arab and Palestinian brothers and we have destroyed this base. Israel used to take from us and give us arms, train and supervise the organization of our army and benefit a great deal from this. This has also been stopped forever. This has taken place at the internal level and at the international level we have supported the Palestinian revolution with all our means. We started with boycotting the international companies that have dealings with Israel. By the time we complete this step, we will have overtaken the Arab countries in this domain.

At the level of political support, which did not exist in the shah's era, we have proven this, we are ready to give all forms of political support.

It is natural that when we complete preparations for our forces and reorganize our army, we maintain frankly and clearly that we will fight side by side with the Palestinians and [words indistinct] against Israel if it launches a new aggressive war.

Question: How do you view the role of oil in solving the Islamic problems, particularly the Palestine question?

Answer: Oil plays two roles at present: an economic and a political role. If we want oil to play these two roles, the Arab countries must be independent. As for the oil's economic role, the Arabs must follow suit; that is, they must watch the transport and export of oil and achieve economic self-sufficiency so that we will not need to export crude oil. If we achieve economic integration and take control of prospecting, pumping, exporting and marketing oil, we will destroy the basis of Israel's survival [words indistinct]. As for the political role of the oil weapon, this requires that we stop pumping oil to the countries wanting to tamper with our independence and support Israel. This is a constant source of danger to us. We stopped exporting oil to many countries and boycotted them. These countries are south Africa, Israel and the Philippines. We will cut oil supplies to any country that plots against us. The others must do the same, simply and plainly.

Question: Brother President, how do you assess your relations with the Arab countries?

Answer: Our relations are good with some Arab regimes, but with others we see that they are working against their people's interests. They are tools of the United States. Therefore, we have no relations with them.

COMMERCE MINISTER RECEIVES HUNGARIAN AMBASSADOR

JN011650 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 1 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Iranian Commerce Minister Dr Reza Sadr received the Hungarian ambassador to Iran today. They discussed the increase of bilateral trade exchange. The Hungarian ambassador expressed his country's readiness to supply Iran with some of the goods it needs and to provide Iranian industries with steel.

Discussions on Trade

LD011814 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Mar 80 LD

[Text] The Hungarian ambassador to Iran today met and held talks with our country's commerce minister. During the meeting matters relating to prospects for increasing trade between the Iranian Islamic Republic and Hungary were discussed and were the subject of an exchange of views. During the meeting, the Hungarian ambassador expressed his government's readiness to provide certain commodities required by Iran, including ironware.

BULGARIAN MISSION HOLD TALKS ON TRADE

LD022106 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Mar 80 LD

[Text] According to the central news bureau, the Bulgarian deputy minister of foreign trade, who heads a mission consisting of commercial officials of that country, which has come to Tehran, met and held talks with our country's minister of commerce today.

In this meeting, expansion of trade between the two countries, especially the increase in the supply of Bulgarian foodstuffs to Iran, namely meat and dairy products and also ironware, were discussed.

During its stay in Iran, the Bulgarian trade mission will discuss the possibilities of furthering cooperation between the two countries with the responsible officials of our country's ministries.

NVOI DECRIES LENIENCY TOWARD COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES

GF011930 [Editorial Report GF] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 1 March broadcast the following commentary, entitled "To Let Counter-revolutionaries Be Free Is an Insult to the Martyrs of Revolution".

It said: The communique issued by the students organization of student followers of the imam's policy for the city of Ahvaz clearly expressed the feelings of many revolutionaries with regard to the soft line followed by certain officials and it is a clear indication that certain elements in our country are still not following the exact line of the imam. The struggles, crusades, and the martyrdom of thousands during the past were the major factors behind the downfall of the regime affiliated with U.S. imperialism.

Remnants of the former regime and its agents are trying to prevent the revolution from achieving final victory. History has shown that no despotic regime and its proponents ever willingly lay down their weapons. They always fight to the end against the revolutionary forces. Since the beginning of the revolution and its victory, the remnants of the regime and the U.S. imperialism have been waging an intensive and extensive struggle against the Iranian Revolution; and these efforts are still continuing. Because certain elements have not totally embraced the revolution, the counterrevolution intensified its actions; and the counterrevolutionary blows against the revolution and its fruits have been intensified. Unfortunately, there are certain events in our liberated land that one cannot be unconcerned and indifferent about.

U.S. imperialism imposed the shah on our nation through its treacherous coup and for a quarter of a century plundered Iran's wealth through its subservient agent. The great leader of Iran, Khomeyni, fought for many years against these shameless meddlings of U.S. imperialism and the shameless crimes of Mohammad Reza. That is why he calls U.S. imperialism the number one enemy of Iran and arch-Satan. The imam has said the major task of the revolution is the struggle to reject this imperialism and its lackeys and agents. How can one follow the imam's policy while leaving free all known individuals and imperialist agents? How can one follow the imam's policy while tainting the name of the student followers of the imam's policy?

NVOI REJECTS LINKING HOSTAGES' RELEASE, COMMISSION INQUIRY

GF021330 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 1 Mar 80 GF

[Unattributed commentary: "U.S. Imperialism, Partner in the Deposed Shah's Crimes"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: The investigations by the special international commission into the inhuman crimes of the deposed shah's regime and its American partners has given the world its first glimpse of some of that regime's crimes and dastardly acts. This came during a meeting between commission members and victims of the shah's regime. One of the members of the international commission, the Algerian envoy to the United Nations, said the commission members were shocked by what they had seen and been told. Some things were beyond the members' imagination, the victims' sufferings defied description.

He added: "We commission members are fully aware that what we have seen is only a minute portion of the suffering endured by the Iranian nation." Expressing admiration for the Iranian people, the Algerian envoy stated: "Your devotions and sacrifices will not be in vain. For more than 25 years a very powerful oppressive force ruled this country. Through your solid and national willpower, you were able to topple that force. I wish to assure you officially that we shall fulfill our function and international society will be informed and notified of the extent human rights were violated here."

Yes, the members of the international commission that day saw only a small sample of the crimes and despicable acts committed by the deposed shah's regime and its infernal apparatus of the United Nations--this CIA branch in our country. The Pahlavi regime--especially after the CIA coup of 19 August 1953--surpassed the crimes of Genghis Khan, Himmler and Hitler. Today in Iran it is rare when one finds a family where one or more members have not been victims of the crimes and lowly acts of the Pahlavi regime's executioners and its U.S. advisers. The Behesht-e Zahra Cemetery in Tehran is only one of the many cemeteries in our country which owes its existence to the wholesale massacres committed by Mohammad Reza.

In the course of its investigation of the inhuman crimes committed by the regime of the traitorous Mohammad Reza, the special commission will undoubtedly be presented with further evidence and documents. These documents and evidence are also criminal evidence against U.S. imperialism, for all these savage acts were carried out under the direct supervision and recommendation of U.S. advisers and representatives. Now that the curtain is being lifted, U.S. imperialism must be held accountable for all these crimes, not only before our people's court but before the entire world and the international court. Mohammad Reza Pahlavi was a paid servant and lackey of U.S. imperialism and the implementor of its orders and instructions.

To offset these revelations, imperialist circles and elements in the United States, England, and other places are making every effort to hinder the work of the special international commission. The mouthpieces and press of the imperialists have embarked upon a vast propaganda campaign against this commission and are even trying, on behalf of their imperialist bosses, to define its duties and functions. They are trying to impose the view that the duty of this commission is to bring about the release of hostages and that every effort must be made to achieve this goal. These gentlemen must be reminded that the function and duty of this special international commission is to investigate the complaints of the Iranian nation against the crimes committed by the shah's regime and its American partners and nothing else. With respect to the U.S. hostages, it must be said that their case will be decided by the parliament of Iran's Islamic Republic.

The special international commission is continuing its work. Pertinent documents and evidence are being made available to this commission, and, according to the promise of the Algerian envoy, all these documents will be made available to international society. The people of our country are anticipating and hoping that as the result of this commission's work, the world will realize the degree to which human rights were violated in our country during the shah's regime with the knowledge and support of the U.S. Government. The progressive society of mankind will support and back the Iranian nation's struggle for the return of the deposed shah and his plundered assets to Iran.

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